

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3330

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 16174

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC GW US OVIP (FORD, GERALD; SCHMIDT, HELMUT)

SUBJECT: PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF FRG IRRITATION AT US

SECRET SERVICE METHODS DURING PRESIDENTIAL

VISIT

BEGIN SUMMARY. BONN AND COLOGNE NEWSPAPERS HAVE GIVEN
PLAY TO AN ARTICLE, ORIGINALLY APPEARING IN AN FRG
POLICE UNION PUBLICATION, WHICH EXPRESSED IRRITATION AT
METHODS OF US SECRET SERVICE PERSONNEL DURING THE
PRESIDENT'S JULY VISIT TO BONN. UPI HAS NOW PICKED UP
THE STORY, ATTRIBUTING ALSO TO OFFICIALS OF THE FEDERAL
CHANCELLERY THE "WEST GERMAN ANGER OVER THE STRONGARM
METHODS" OF THE USSS. UPI CONTRASTS US SECURITY
MEASURES WITH THOSE FOR CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S CURRENT

VISIT TO THE US. END SUMMARY.

1. AN ARTICLE BY AN FRG POLICE OFFICIAL, ORIGINALLY
APPEARING IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF "POLIZEI-SPIEGEL,"
JOURNAL OF THE FRG POLICE UNION, WAS PICKED UP IN
SEPTEMBER BY THE COLOGNE "STADT ANZEIGER" AND, ON
OCTOBER 1, BY THE BONN "GENERAL-ANZEIGER." THE AUTHOR
OF THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE, CHIEF COMMISSIONER WINFRIED
PUENDER, WROTE THAT AMERICAN SECURITY MEASURES MADE
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THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT "APPEAR AS IF GERMANY HAD LOST THE

WAR ONLY YESTERDAY." AS REPORTED IN THE COLOGNE AND BONN PAPERS, THE FRG POLICE AND SECURITY OFFICIALS FOUND OFFENSIVE SUCH ACTIONS AS THE "TOTALLY UNANNOUNCED" GUARDING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE BY UNIFORMED AMERICAN MP'S "WHO EMERGED FROM THE PLANE TO TAKE UP IMMEDIATE POSITIONS" AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF "A CO-PROTECTOR OR SHADOW TO EVERY GERMAN RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY MEASURES." PUENDER REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT US SECURITY PERSONNEL "CONSTANTLY SOUGHT TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS PREVAIL" AND WERE AT TIMES "ARROGANT AND OVERBEARING"; HE ADDED THAT "SUCH EXTREMES" ARE TAKEN BY THE US ONLY IN GERMANY AND NOT DURING PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO OTHER COUNTRIES, WHERE IT IS ACCEPTED THAT SECURITY IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOST COUNTRY. PUENDER IS ALSO QUOTED AS QUESTIONING HOW THE US WOULD REACT IF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRG WERE TO TAKE ALONG AND USE UNIFORMED GERMAN MILITARY POLICE ON A VISIT TO THE US, DEPLOYING THEM IN FRONT OF THE WHITE HOUSE. "IT IS TIME," PUENDER WROTE, "THAT THE GERMAN POLICE BE GIVEN FULL SOVEREIGNTY EVEN WHEN AMERICANS ARE AMONG US."

2. UPI ARTICLES BY WELLINGTON LONG OF OCTOBER 1 AND 2, IN ADDITION TO QUOTING FROM THE PUENDER ARTICLE, WROTE THAT OFFICIALS OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY "JUST MANAGED" TO KEEP THE SECRET SERVICE ADVANCE PARTY FROM GETTING INTO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S OFFICE TO SWEEP IT FOR BUGGING DEVICES; THE AMERICANS DID, ACCORDING TO LONG, "SUCCEED IN GETTING INTO SCHMIDT'S BEDROOM IN HIS " VILLA." QUOTING "A GOVERNMENT SOURCE," LONG WROTE THAT THE AMERICANS PUSHED ONE OF SCHMIDT'S KEY AIDES BACK INTO HIS OFFICE ON AN ADVANCE WALK THROUGH THE CHANCELLERY AND THAT "THEY ACTED AS IF THEY WERE STILL OCCUPIERS" WHILE THEY WERE IN THE CHANCELLERY. LONG ALSO CLAIMED THAT, DURING THE PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SCHMIDT, A SECRET SERVICE MAN SOUGHT TO DENY THE CHANCELLOR'S SECRETARY ACCESS TO THE OFFICE WHEN SHE ATTEMPTED TO TAKE IN A FILE THAT THE CHANCELLOR HAD CALLED FOR. THE FILE WAS DELIVERED AFTER A GERMAN SECURITY OFFICER WHO WAS PRESENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMPHATICALLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GERMANS WERE IN CHARGE IN THEIR OWN CHANCELLERY.

3. UPI ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE WAS "CONSTERNATION" AMONG SCHMIDT'S STAFF WHEN THE HEAD OF THE WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE PARTY PRODUCED FLOOR PLANS FOR THE CHANCELLERY WITH THE POSITIONS OF ALL THE FURNITURE CORRECTLY MARKED. REFERRING TO THE CURRENT SPY TRIAL OF FORMER

CHANCELLOR'S AIDE GUENTHER GUILLAUME, ONE SOURCE IS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD UPI, "I GUESS EVERYONE HAS AN AGENT IN THE CHANCELLERY." (EMBASSY COMMENT: WITH

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REGARD TO THIS PARTICULAR ALLEGATION, THE ONLY "FLOOR PLAN" OF WHICH THE EMBASSY IS AWARE IS THE SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM TAKEN FROM THE BROCHURE PREPARED FOR THE 1969 NIXON VISIT WHICH AN EMBOFF AND ADVANCE TEAM TOOK ALONG ON THE FIRST VISIT TO THE CHANCELLERY. THE CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL WITH WHOM WE DEALT ON THAT OCCASION IS CURRENTLY OUT OF TOWN AND THUS UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT; HE SHOWED NO CONSTERNATION AT THE TIME, AND ASSISTED US IN REVISING THE SKETCH TO UPDATE IT. END COMMENT.)

4. UPI CONTRASTS US METHODS IN BONN WITH THE FACT THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, ON HIS CURRENT TRIP TO THE US, HAS TAKEN ONLY THREE OR FOUR PERSONAL BODYGUARDS WITH HIM. "THAT IS ABOUT ALL WE CAN AFFORD," ONE OFFICIAL WHO WISHED TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS IS QUOTED AS SAYING.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED ONLY TWO QUESTIONS, BOTH FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. ON THE FIRST, WE STATED THAT THE SECRET SERVICE DOES NOT OPERATE

ANY DIFFERENTLY IN GERMANY THAN IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY
THAT THE PRESIDENT VISITS. THE SECOND QUESTION HAD
TO DO WITH THE ALLEGATION THAT UNIFORMED MP'S GUARDED
THE PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT, AND WE HAVE TOLD AP THAT THE
ONLY GUARDS WERE THE AIR POLICEMAN WHO TRAVEL WITH
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THE AIRCRAFT FOR SECURITY. IF QUERIED CONCERNING OTHER
DETAILS OF THE STORIES, WE PROPOSE TO TAKE
A "NO COMMENT" LINE AND TO REFER ALL QUESTIONS TO
WASHINGTON.
HILLENBRAND

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